





Mr. THURSTON, OF RHODE ISLAND.

We took occasion, last week, to express our regret at the termination of the Congressional career of Mr. Hubbard, a Whig from this State, who has uniformly sustained the Republican cause, and who has uniformly cast his votes in Congress, the cause of Human Rights.

We observe that the term of service of Mr. Thurston, Democratic member from Rhode Island, expires with this Congress. We do not regret that he should have been re-nominated, or indeed a candidate for reelection—but we regret that the few members belonging to the Republican party who are trusted in the House, to carry out the policy of the Union, to vote in the House, he has himself a constant supporter of the Democratic party, and who is one of the few members that looks to the Declaration of Independence for its fundamental principles.







For the National Era.

RETRIBUTION.

BY MRS. EMMA D. SOUTHWORTH.

[CONTINUED.]

I pass over a few months of time, every stroke of which, however, had been tallied upon the heart and mind of Ernest Dent, obliterating the writing of years thereon; every stroke of which struck off a year of Hester's life, as the hours passed heavily and more heavily upon her, bearing her down slowly but surely to the grave; every moment of which was consumed in the exultation by Juliette Summers, as it brought her nearer the goal of her secret aspirations.

Upon Colonel Dent, a new and unfortunate loss of popularity and distinction was growing; he had been named, as Juliette had foreseen would be the case, as the probable next Governor of the State. He was much from home; and his electing scheme was a continual draught upon his purse, so that even the negroes, who had been faithful, fully paid up on the first of every month, were now put off from time to time. Their zeal for work diminished in consequence; and the effect began to be seen in the deterioration of the Model-Farm. This had gone on some months, when Hester ventured to remonstrate, and drew upon herself a severe rebuke.

At length the time for the meeting of Congress approached, and Colonel Dent, with his family, went to Philadelphia. Just before they left home, Hester received a letter from her quondam teacher, Mrs. Nichols, informing her that she had received a legacy from the will of a worthy citizen, who had died in England, and that this legacy of three thousand dollars had enabled her to quit teaching, and to establish a Congressional boarding-house, and that she had accepted of the offer. Hester had read this letter before her husband, and was made happy by his according to the request contained therein. So to Philadelphia went Mrs. Nichols's boarding-house, and Mrs. Summers, with her maid, Miss Sumner, and Mrs. Nichols's house, so that they had it to themselves. For the first week, a few cards were left for the new comers. They received few visits, however, for, with the fatigue of their journey, Hester lay upon the sofa most of the time; while Miss Sumner was out, engaged with millions of dress-makers, and Colonel Dent was absent, renewing his acquaintance with long-absent political friends. At the end of the first week of their stay, Mrs. Dent and Miss Sumner received cards to a *ball-casino*, to be given at the hotel of the French Ambassador. As Mrs. Dent had somewhat recovered from her fatigue, and as Miss Sumner was anxious to be seen, they determined to accept the invitations. Juliette Summers chose to go as night; and, upon the evening of the ball, arrayed her superb form in a flowing robe of blue velvet, starred with gold, while her rich, black ringlets were held back by a crescent of diamonds. Hester, as Morning, appeared in a blue satin dress, and a pair of silver gages, confined by a single diamond above her brow, and falling around her like a mist. Colonel and Mrs. Dent and Miss Sumner, announced the gentlemen—where, as they threw open the doors of the saloon to admit this party, Colonel Dent conducted his ladies through the hall, and into the ball-room, where he could find a seat for them. Their progress was accompanied by the usual half-suppressed buzz of inquiry and remark.

"Who are they?" "Who is she—the lady in black velvet?" "Oh! you do not hear their names announced?" Colonel Dent, of Virginia; and that splendid woman on his right, his wife!" "Which, the lady in black velvet?" "Yes, of course?" "Who is the other lady—the little delicate girl in blue?" "Oh! that is Miss—Miss—Wint—no, Summer. A poor relation, or a governess, or something. I don't know her name."

"Well, never mind her—she's nobody; but Mrs. Dent—Night, most glorious Night! Oh! is she not a peerless woman? Where the deuce did Dent find her?" "Her; why, she was Miss Grey, of Green Vale, in Virginia. Her family is one of the most distinguished in the State."

"Or in the world. I am going to get presented!" Hester very distinctly repeated the words, as if they were intended to be heard. Every word of this whispered conversation was distinctly heard by each one of the party, and the effect was, that most of all upon Juliette Summers, who painfully conceived the difference of consideration bestowed upon a Senator's lady and a nobody's daughter.

Miss Wint—Summer: Colonel Dent was seated in a silent wish that Juliette had been Hester, and that Hester had been Juliette, who had the most right to be so, and who was simply named at the mistake. Soon after Colonel Dent had seated his ladies, and left them the task of looking after themselves, who was an *attache*, met him, and said, "Colonel! I congratulate you with my heart and soul to Mrs. Dent. Pray, present me to Mrs. Dent."

"Mrs. Dent took him up to Hester, and said, 'Dear Ernest, I am sorry. But surely as you are here, you will be kind enough to make my acquaintance.'"

"I feel honored by Mr. Murray's observation," said Hester, with a queer smile, making room for him by her side. It was amusing to see the young man's look of blank dismay. However, he quickly regained his self-possession, and was near losing it again in pleasure when Mrs. Dent, turning to Juliette, said, "Mr. Murray, this is my friend, Miss Summers, formerly of Alexandria. Juliette, my love, this is Mr. Murray, of whom you have heard Col. Dent speak so often."

Miss Summers received Mr. Murray's observation with a haughty grace, that none but Miss Summers could assume. She looked at him with a scornful glance, and then, as if she had never seen him, she turned to her husband, and said, "Dear Ernest, I am sorry. But surely as you are here, you will be kind enough to make my acquaintance."

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"Yes, I will," said Hester; "for indeed I myself sympathize with you."

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